

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25

NEA-14 RSC-01 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 COME-00

SIL-01 LAB-06 DRC-01 /193 W
----- 028760

R 141041Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4373

INFO USUN NEW YORK 538

UNCLAS MANILA 7110

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UNDP, SPOP, UNFPA

SUBJ: UNDP - 18TH GOVERNING COUNCIL - ITEM 9, UNFPA

ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

1. SUMMARY: B&F COMMITTEE RECOMENDED TO PLENARY APPROVAL OF ENTIRE ADMINSTRATIVE BUDGET CONTAINED IN DP/51. FRG AFTER BEING AMONG MOST CRITICAL SPEAKERS ANNOUNED WOULD DOUBLE ITS CONTRI-BUTION TO UNFPA IN 1975 IF UNFPA FUTHER IMPROVED ITS PERFORMANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. UNFPA DIRECTOR SALAS IN INTRODUCING ITEM SAID: (A) CHANCES EXCELLENT UNFPA WOULD MEET ITS \$54 MILLION FUND-RAISING TARGET FOR 1974; (B) UNFPA'S IMPLEMENTATION RATE FOR 1973 HAD BEEN 64 PERCENT, 4 PERCENT HIGHER THAN HAD BEEN UNFPA ESTIMATE TO GC IN JUNE 1973; (C) VOLUME OF REQUESTS FOR UNFPA ASSISTANCE RAPIDLY GROWING; (D) NEEDED OWN INFORMATION UNIT FOR NUMEROUS REASONS, INCLUDING LIAISON WORK WITH NGOS, ASSURED COMMITTEE IT WOULD FORM LINK WITH OTHER UN INFORMATION UNITS AND THESE NO INTENTION DUPLICATE ANY EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS CEFI OR OPI; (E) FIELD COORDINATORS HAD HELPED SPEED PROGRAMMING AND DELIVERY.

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3. AWARE FROM CORRIDOR'S CONVERSATIONS THAT MANY DELEGATIONS

(UK, JAPAN, CANADA, SWEDEN AND OTHERS) WERE ON THE FENCE RE SIZE OF INFORMATION UNIT, KEEPING FIELD COORDINATION UNDER PROGRAM FUNDS, ETC., THE US DELEGATION SPOKE FIRST IN STRONG SUPPORT APPROVAL OF THE FULL BUDGET, AND MAKING FOLLOWING PARTICULAR POINTS RE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED REPORT OF ACABQ (DP/68): (A) INTRODUCING A BIENNIAL BUDGET IN PROGRAM FORMAT--SAID USG GUESTION PREMATURE ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF DECISIONS TO FLOW OUT OF WPY, WPC, AND 1975 SPECIAL SESSION OF GA ON DEVELOPMENT ISSUES; (B) PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT--LARGER UNIT THAN WHAT EXISTED IN 1973 WAS NEEDED AS FUNDS' SIZE AND ROLE ON 1975 WOULD BE LARGER PLUS IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING UP MOMENTUM GENERATED BY WPY AND WPC IN THIS MOST CRUCIAL AREA FACING MANKIND: COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH CESI, BUT CESI AND OPI ALONE COULD NOT ADEQUATELY DO JOB; (C) FIELD COORDINATORS- OPPOSED SUGGESTION THEY BE PUT UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET AT THIS TIME IN BELIEF SUCH WOULD TEND SLOW DOWN DELIVERY, REDUCE FLEXIBILITY AND BUILD IN UNDESIRABLE RIGIDITIES. SAID US DELEGATION VIEWED MONITORING PROJECTS, BREAKING BOTTLENECKS AND OTHERWISE FACILITATING IMPLEMENTATION, ASSISTING RESREPS, AS INDISPENSABLE OPERATIONAL TASKS AND THAT US DELEGATION HAD CONFIDENCE THAT UNFPA DIRECTOR ASSISTED BY UNDP PERSONNEL EXPERTS WOULD SELECT THE RIGHT KINDS OF COORDINATORS AT THE PROPER GRADE LEVEL; (D) AUTHORIZING UNFPA DIRECTOR TRANSFER SUBVENTED UNDP POSTS TO UNFPA. THE ACABQ REPORT OPPOSED THE GRANTING OF THIS AUTHORIZATION AND THE US DELEGATION SUPPORTED THIS ACABQ RECOMMENDATION.

4. SEVENTEEN OTHER DELEGATIONS SPOKE TO DP/51 AND DP/68 WITH FOLLOWING DELEGATIONS LARGELY IN AGREEMENT WITH POINTS MADE BY THE US DELEGATION: MALAYSIA AND PHILIPPINES (BOTH OF WHICH CRITIZED CESI PERFORMANCE), DENMARK, UK, IRAN, INDIA, SWEDEN (SURPRINGLY), FINLAND, SUDAN, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY.

5. COUNTRIES THAT FAVORED ALL OR MOST OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACABQ REPORT RE COORDINATORS, INFORMATION UNIT, BIENNIAL BUDGET, BUDGET REDUCTIONS, ETC., WERE GHANA AND UPPER VOLTA WHILE MIDDLE GROUND POSITIONS WERE TAKEN BY FRG, JAPAN, CANADA AND NETHERLANDS. FOLLOWING OFTEN VOCAL DELEGATIONS TOOK NO PART IN THE DISCUSSION--BRAZIL, FRANCE, USSR, AND LATIN OR EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES.

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6. FRG STATEMENT--GOING CONSIDERABLY BEYOND THE CONTEXT OF DOCUMENTS UNDER DISCUSSION, FRG DELEGATE, READING FROM PAPER: (A) CRITIZED IMPLEMENTATION RATE AS BEING TOO LOW; (B) SAID TOO MUCH BEING SPENT ON SEMINARS AND NOT ENOUGH ON COUNTRY PROGRAMS AND FAMILY PLANNING COMPONENT; (C) FLOW OF INFORMATION INADEQUATE; (D) UNFPA AND WHO STILL NOT GETTING ALONG WELL ENOUGH; (E) THOUGHT ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET COULD BE PARED; AND (F) THEN RATHER IN-

CONGROUSLY; ANNOUNCED THAT FRG WAS PLANNING ON 1975 TO DOUBLE ITS CONTRIBUTION TO UNFPA.

7. SALAS, GILLE AND KEPPEL OF UNFPA ALL ANSWERED QUESTIONS THAT HAD BEEN RAISED BY DELEGATES WITH KEPPEL DESCRIBING AND DEFENDING HOW FIELD COORDINATORS WERE SELECTED. RE THE INFORMATION UNIT, GILLE SAID ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FLOWING FROM WPC WOULD BE PUT ON UNFPA; THAT FUND WORKED CLOSELY WITH CESI (INCLUDING JOINT PROJECTS) BUT THAT CESI HAS FINANCIAL AND OTHER LIMITATIONS AND WE "MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO WALK IN CIRCLES;" AND THAT UNFPA TAKING ON MAJOR NEW INFORMATION PROJECT, THE INTERNATIONAL POPULATION ASSISTANCE BOOK, SETTING FORTH ALL ACTIVITIES OF THE MANY GROUPS ACTIVE IN THE POPULATION FIELD. COMMENT: THIS YEARLY BOOK WAS PREVIOUSLY PREPARED BY AID. GILLE SAID UNFPA'S RELATIONS WITH WHO WERE MUCH IMPROVED AND THAT FAMILY PLANNING PERCENTAGE COMPONENT OF PROGRAM WILL GO UP CONSIDERABLY IN 1975 AND 1976 WITH SURVEY, SEMINAR AND CENSUS COMPONENT DROPPING AS WPC CONCLUDES AND OTHER PROJECTS (WORLD FERTILITY SURVEY, AFRICAN CENSUS, ETC.,) MOVE TOWARD COMPLETION.

8. SALAS SAID UNFPA PLANNED MOVE OVER TIME TOWARD BIENNIAL PROGRAM BUDGET, THANKED COMMITTEE FOR KEEPING FIELD COORDINATORS UNDER PROGRAM FUNDING AS HE CONVINCED THIS PROVIDES HIM WITH INDISPENSABLE FLEXIBILITY AND CLOSED BY THANKING FRG FOR DOUBLING PLEDGE WHICH HE CALLED "CHRISTMAS IN JUNE".
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BUDGETS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, BUDGET ESTIMATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MANILA07110
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740155-0203
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740645/aaaablzu.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by PhilliRO>; APPROVED <16 JAN 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDP - 18TH GOVERNING COUNCIL - ITEM 9, UNFPA ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET
TAGS: EAID, SPOP, UNDP, UNFPA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005